DC

16

ABSOLUTE POWER TIE-IN

SUPERMAN

WILLIAMSON
CAMPBELL

13+
TEEN

DC

JULY

FROM THE DC VAULT

4 ISSUES

Death in the Family
ROBIN LIVES!

WRITTEN BY
J.M. DEMATTEIS

ART AND COVER BY
RICK LEONARDI

THE ALL-NEW STORY OF WHAT HAPPENS AFTER JASON TODD SURVIVES HIS BRUTAL ENCOUNTER WITH THE JOKER!

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FROM THE DC VAULT: DEATH IN THE FAMILY: ROBIN LIVES! #1
MIKE MIGNOLA VARIANT COVER!

HOW TO DO MAGIC FOR KIDS!!

GET OVER HERE AND SIT DOWN, JONATHAN.

THE SHOW IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.

WHY COULDN'T IT BE SPORTS?

IT'LL BE SPORTS, TOO. HE'S A KID. AND STILL YOUNG ENOUGH THAT HE BELIEVES IN MAGIC.

AND BESIDES, CONSIDERING...*Y'KNOW...* WE ALWAYS KNEW HE'D BE INTO SOME THINGS THAT WERE OUTSIDE THE BOX.

WHERE DID HE GET THE CURTAINS?

SHEETS WE FOUND AT A SWAP MEET...

YOU READY?!

YOU BET, SON!

OKAY, MOM, SAY THE THING!

OH, *RIGHT.* OKAY...

GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. THAT'S US.

PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR AN EVENING OF WONDER AND SPECTACLE. DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE ILLUSIONS AS THEY TRICK YOUR EYES!

PRESENTING...

CLARK THE CONJURER!

OHH, THE CAPE LOOKS *GREAT,* HONEY.

VERY EXCITED TO SEE SOME MAGIC TRICKS, CLARK.

IT'S NOT TRICKS, DAD.

MAGIC IS *REAL.*

AND ACCORDING TO THE BOOK...SHOULD BE TREATED VERY, VERY SERIOUSLY.

NOW PICK A CARD! ANY CARD!

OKAY... *DONE.*

NOW, IS YOUR CARD...

...THE QUEEN OF HEARTS!

HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, SON...

DANG IT, I NEED TO START OVER.

IT'S OKAY, HONEY. TAKE ALL THE TIME YOU NEED...

HEY CLARK, IS THAT PART OF THE TRICK? I MEAN... *MAGIC?*

WHAT?

THAT RIGHT THERE...THE ***RED*** ON YOUR SHIRT?

I...I DON'T...

"HE'S LOST A LOT OF BLOOD..."

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A HARD TIME FINDING A SUITABLE DONOR IF WE NEED MORE...

WE'RE LUCKY ONE BULLET WENT RIGHT THROUGH HIS CHEST.

IT'S THIS OTHER ONE IN HIS SHOULDER THAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT. CAME CLOSE TO HIS AXILLARY ARTERY.

HE'S A FIGHTER, FOR SURE.

BUT...IF ***SUPERMAN*** IS NO LONGER THE...***MAN OF STEEL...***

ABSOLUTE POWER

"MAGIC IS REAL" PART ONE

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON — SCRIPT
JAMAL CAMPBELL — ART AND COVER
ARIANA MAHER — LETTERS
NATHAN SZERDY, FRANK CHO & SABINE RICH, STEVAN SUBIC, PABLO VILLALOBOS — VARIANT COVERS
JOSÉ LUIS GARCÍA-LÓPEZ — ARTIST SPOTLIGHT VARIANT COVER
JILLIAN GRANT — ASSISTANT EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI — EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

PREVIOUSLY, IN *ABSOLUTE POWER* #1...

AMANDA WALLER HAS WON.
A PLANETWIDE BLITZKRIEG HAS ROBBED THE WORLD'S METAHUMANS OF THEIR SUPERPOWERS AND RESOURCES. THOSE FEW WHO HAVE THUS FAR EVADED CAPTURE ARE FUGITIVES ON THE RUN, HUNTED MERCILESSLY BY TASK FORCE VII, A REGIMENT OF UNSTOPPABLE AMAZOS BUILT BY WALLER'S ALLIES, FAILSAFE AND THE BRAINIAC QUEEN.
AND AS OF MOMENTS AGO...
SUPERMAN HAS BEEN *SHOT...*

...WHY DO WE NEED THE *KRYPTONITE SCALPEL?*

BECAUSE WE HAVE NO IDEA IF THIS IS TRULY PERMANENT OR IF HE WILL GET HIS POWERS BACK. IF HE SUDDENLY POWERED UP, WE DON'T KNOW HOW IT COULD IMPACT HIS INJURIES--WE MIGHT NEED TO CONTINUE OPERATING.

WE NEED TO BE READY FOR ANYTHING...

HOW ARE YOU SO CALM RIGHT NOW?

SAME AS YOU. BECAUSE WE *MUST BE.* YOU AND I HAVE DONE COUNTLESS SURGERIES...

...BUT NONE AS IMPORTANT AS *THIS ONE...*

"...WE NEED SUPERMAN IF WE'RE TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF SURVIVING THIS ATTACK BY ***AMANDA WALLER*** AND HER ***AMAZO ARMY.***

"SHE HIT US ON ALL FRONTS...

"...AND SHE'S WINNING..."

THERE IS A CURFEW IN EFFECT!

STAYING INSIDE IS FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION!

IF YOU HAVE NO SUPERPOWERS AND ARE NOT A VIGILANTE, YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

NEPO.

DAMN, NOTHING IS WORKING.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

CURFEW IS IN EFFECT! *LET'S GO!*

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

GOT A CURFEW BREAKER THAT IS RESISTING ORDERS, SIR.

HOLY CRAP, MY SCANNER IS TELLING ME EXACTLY WHO THIS IS...

ZATANNA!

ZATANNA ZATARA

ZATANNA ZATARA. MAGIC USER...

...OR AT LEAST SHE *USED* TO BE.

THIS'LL BE AN EASY ONE. WITHOUT HER POWERS SHE'S JUST SOME *STAGE MAGICIAN.*

MAYBE SHE CAN SHOW US A *TRICK?*

DON'T SHOOT...

"YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T *ALWAYS* RELY ON JUST MAGIC?"

YOUR FATHER IS A TERRIFIC MAGICIAN, BUT IT CAN'T BE THE ONLY THING YOU LEARN IN LIFE.

THERE ARE OTHER SKILLS YOU COULD PICK UP THAT COULD SERVE YOU WELL SOMEDAY.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, BRUCE?

THAT ***YOU'LL*** TEACH ME HOW TO THROW A PUNCH?

OKAY, LET'S HIT THE ROAD, WITCH.

BANG BANG BANG BANG

WHOOSH

WHAT THE--?

THUK

KRAK

HOW'S *THAT* FOR A TRICK?

HEY! MAN DOWN! MAN DOWN!

GET HER!

DAMMIT.

WOOOOM

HUNH?

I SAW YOU ONCE IN VEGAS, **MS. ZATARA,** AND I'D LOVE TO WATCH YOUR SHOW AGAIN.

BUT I NEED YOU TO TAKE MY HAND FIRST, OKAY?

ANYTHING FOR A FAN!

BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG

HOW DID YOU FIND ME, **MERCY?**

I KEEP AN EAR OUT FOR ANY TASK FORCE AGENTS. THEY'RE LIKE ***VULTURES*** THAT ***COLLECT PEOPLE*** AFTER AMAZO ATTACKS, SO I FOLLOW THEM IN HOPES I CAN GET THE SURVIVORS TO SAFETY.

WHERE ARE WE GOING? WALLER'S PEOPLE ARE ***EVERY-WHERE.***

WHERE COULD POSSIBLY BE SAFE?

THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE.

THANKFULLY, AFTER BRAINIAC'S ATTACK, SUPERMAN SET UP CERTAIN EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES BETWEEN SUPERCORP AND THE FORTRESS. OTHERWISE WE'D BE EXTRA SCREWED.

OH NO...

I DON'T KNOW WHY I EXPECTED MORE TO BE HERE...

WE'VE GRABBED WHO WE CAN...WORD IS OUT TO REGROUP HERE, BUT WE'RE TRYING TO NOT CLUE ***WALLER*** IN TO THAT...

WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!

I DIDN'T MEAN TO OFFEND YOU, **RED.**

YOU SAID.

AND I QUOTE.

"CAN WE TRUST ANY ROBOTS RIGHT NOW?"

I'M SORRY, DID YOU FORGET THAT THE AMAZOS ARE OUT THERE ATTACKING OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY?

THOSE AMAZOS ARE BEING CONTROLLED BY WALLER.

I HAVE A MIND OF MY OWN.

EXCUSE ME?

ENOUGH!

YOU SURE? COULD HAVE FOOLED ME.

BWAHEHEH.

NO MATTER THE SITUATION...

...WE CAN***NOT*** FIGHT AMONGST OURSELVES.

WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO FIND A WAY TO SAVE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE ***NOT*** HERE.

YOU GOT IT, BIG GUY.

YES, SIR.

HE STARTED IT.

SUPERMAN, WE PUT YOU IN YOUR RECOVERY SUIT FOR A REASON.

YOU'RE ***VERY*** INJURED, AND NO AMOUNT OF SUNLIGHT IS GOING TO CHANGE THAT. YOUR HEALING ABILITIES ARE ***GONE.***

YOU ALMOST DIED.

WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME. AND I HAVE MUCH BIGGER PRIORITIES RIGHT NOW...

WHERE IS CONNER? WHERE IS JON?

WHERE IS MY ***SON?***

I COULDN'T SAVE THEM...

I TRIED.

I TRIED TO GET ALL OF YOU, BUT THE AMAZO WAS TOO MUCH, AND I HAD TO MAKE A CALL...

I SAVED *YOU.*

I'M...

I'M REALLY SORRY, BOSS.

IT'S OKAY. I KNOW. I KNOW YOU DID YOUR BEST.

THANK YOU, MERCY.

I HATE BEING EMOTIONAL...I GUESS I'VE BEEN SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME WITH *YOU.*

WE'RE ALL FEELING THE BURN FROM THIS ATTACK, MERCY. NOTHING WRONG WITH LETTING IT SHOW.

YOUR EFFORTS HAVE HELPED US OUT A LOT, BUT WE NEED TO FIND AN EASIER WAY TO GET PEOPLE HERE...

SUPERMAN... I HAVE AN IDEA.

I THINK THERE IS A WAY FOR US TO GET THE UPPER HAND ON WALLER. AND IT INVOLVES...

MAGIC.

YES. SEE...

...THERE ARE PASSAGES MY FATHER USED TO CALL ***DARK ROADS.***

THEY ARE INVISIBLE TO NEARLY EVERYONE.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE MAGICAL ABILITIES TO TRAVERSE THEM. NORMAL PEOPLE GET PULLED INTO THEM ALL THE TIME. YOU HEAR STORIES ABOUT HAUNTED STREETS, CROSSROADS...

THE POINT IS WE CAN USE THEM TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE. TO ***OPERATE*** IN THE ***SHADOWS.***

FIRST WE NEED TO FIND THE ***MAP OF MORDRU.***

THE DARK ROADS ARE ***REALLY*** DANGEROUS, BUT I THINK YOU AND I CAN WALK THEM TOGETHER AND NOT ONLY FIND HELP, BUT TAKE DOWN WALLER.

WHY ***ME?***

THE DARK ROADS RESPOND TO CERTAIN THINGS.

DEATH IS A BIG ONE.

AND SEEING AS HOW YOU DIED ONCE BEFORE AND WERE KNOCKING ON DEATH'S DOOR NOT LONG AGO...

OKAY... SAY NO MORE.

BRUCE AND ***DIANA*** ARE IN THE MAIN ROOM...MEET ME THERE AND WE CAN TALK A BIGGER PLAN.

I OWE BRUCE A THANK-YOU FROM LONG AGO ANYWAY...

GOOD, I'LL SEE YOU THERE.

HOLD ON...

MERCY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

BACK OUT THERE, SIR. I'M GLAD YOU AND ZATANNA MIGHT HAVE A PLAN, BUT THERE ARE STILL PEOPLE THAT NEED HELP.

AFTER WATCHING YOU THE LAST FEW MONTHS...I CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND AND DO ***NOTHING.*** EVEN IF MY NEW POWERS MAKE ME A TARGET...

MERCY, OF ***COURSE*** I SUPPORT YOU.

BUT... I HAVE A REQUEST. A MISSION.

TOP SECRET.

I NEED YOU TO FIND SOMEONE FOR ME...

METROPOLIS.

SUPERCORP NEVER GOT TO FIX THE DAMAGE DONE BY THE **BRAINIAC ATTACK,** AND THE BUILDING HAS BEEN CLEARED OUT...

AND WE'LL BE SAFE HERE, LENA?

I REALLY HOPE SO. THAT AMAZO TOOK MY SILVER BANSHEE POWERS, AND I BARELY ESCAPED.

WE'RE LUCKY IT GOT DISTRACTED BY LIVEWIRE AND PARASITE...

SUPERMAN, PAL, WHERE ARE YOU?

I HATE TO SAY THIS, JIMMY, BUT IF I WERE WALLER, I WOULD HAVE TAKEN OUT SUPERMAN **FIRST.**

BUT I WAS ALSO THINKING THAT IF WE GOT MY DAD HERE AND IT JOGGED HIS MEMORIES, HE COULD HELP US...

ANYTHING?

I...I'M SORRY.

I HAVE NO MEMORY OF ANY OF THIS...OR BEING ***LEX LUTHOR.****

EVER SINCE THAT...BRAINIAC PERSON...I GET IMAGES OF THINGS, BUT... THAT'S IT.

I CAN'T HELP...

*LEX DID SOMETHING NOBLE FOR A CHANGE AND GOT HIS MIND WIPED IN THE PROCESS LAST ISSUE. --PK

IT'S OKAY, DAD.

IT WAS WORTH A TRY.

:SIGH:

YOU OKAY, HONEY?

I...I'VE HAD MY POWERS FOR SO LONG I HAD NO IDEA WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE WITHOUT THEM.

IT FEELS LIKE I LOST A LIMB, JIMMY. A PIECE OF MYSELF IS MISSING.

LIKE I'M NOT ***ME*** RIGHT NOW...

YOU'RE STILL THE WOMAN I FELL IN LOVE WITH, SIOBHAN.

POWERS OR NO POWERS...

I THINK WE CAN TRY AND FIND A WAY TO GET OUT AN ENCRYPTED DISTRESS CALL AND GET SOME...

THAT'S WEIRD...ONE OF MY DAD'S ARMORS IS MISSING...

THEN WE BETTER ***FIND IT,*** GIRL.

IT BELONGS TO *US* NOW.

OLIVER QUEEN ASKED US TO COLLECT ANY TECH WE COULD FIND FROM SUPERCORP.

I REALLY DIDN'T EXPECT ANYONE TO BE STUPID ENOUGH TO STILL BE HERE.

BUT WE'VE STUMBLED ONTO A REAL PRIZE...

...LEX LUTHOR.

YOU'RE ON WALLER'S ***MOST WANTED*** LIST.

GRAB 'EM.

NO!

LEAVE HIM ALONE!

STOP!

GET AWAY FROM HER!

LOOK WHO'S FEELING BRAVE.

EVEN IN A WORLD WITHOUT POWERS, SOMEONE LIKE YOU IS STILL A LOSER.

BUT MAYBE YOU'LL FINALLY MATTER...AS A *MARTYR.*

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

ZAP

IF WALLER IS AFTER LEX...

...THEN WE HAVE TO KEEP HIM AS ***FAR AWAY*** FROM HER AS WE CAN.

ARMOR UP, PEOPLE.

WE'RE AT ***WAR.***

LOIS?!

THE *ABSOLUTE POWER* SAGA CONTINUES IN *ABSOLUTE POWER* #2 NEXT MONTH (TRUST US, DO *NOT* MISS THAT ONE) AND ACROSS THE DC UNIVERSE...AND BE SURE TO RETURN HERE FOR *SUPERMAN* #17 AS SUPERMAN AND ZATANNA WALK...THE DARK ROADS!

ADGHJEM, STEAD OF THE VANDAL CLAN, THE NEXT EVE.

DARK KNIGHTS OF STEEL

ALLWINTER

WRITER JAY KRISTOFF
ARTIST TIRSO
LETTERS WES ABBOTT

BROTHERS AND SISTERS! FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS HAS THE *ALLWINTER* LAIN THICK UPON THESE LANDS!

BUT WHILE SOME HAVE *WITHERED* IN THE CHILL SINCE THE OLD KINGDOM FELL, WE HAVE PROSPERED!

WITH JARL ROMAN AND HIS DOGS *DEAD*, SVARTFJELL IS OURS, AND THE REST OF JARNLUND SHALL FOLLOW!

FOR BLOOD AND HONOR!

BLOOD AND HONOR, THEY CRIED.

AS IF THESE ISLES WERE NOT ALREADY *DRENCHED* WITH THE FIRST.

AND *DRAINED* OF THE SECOND.

PREVIEW

THIS VICTORY IS YOURS, AS WELL AS OURS. YET YOU DO NOT DRINK WITH US, *OLD MAN?*

I CARRY MY *OWN,* FRU CAITLIN.

"THE SLADE I KNEW *REVELED* IN BATTLE, NOT SHIRKED FROM IT.

"JARLS *FEARED* HIM. WARRIORS QUAILED AT THE *SIGHT* OF HIM.

AND THOUGH I AM *GRATEFUL* FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY, I'D RATHER THE OTHER HALF OF THE COIN YOU *OWE* ME, AND TO BE UPON MY WAY.

SO *SWIFT* TO DEPART? AFTER SO *MANY* YEARS AWAY?

"THE BOWELS OF THE BRAVEST RAN TO WATER AT THE MEREST *WHISPER* OF HIS NAME.

"THE DEATHSTROKE."

THAT MAN IS *DEAD,* JARL VANDAR.

FORGIVE ME, BUT THE MAN I SAW ON THE BATTLEFIELD YESTERDAY BORE HIM A *STRIKING* RESEMBLANCE.

WALK WITH ME.

PREVIEW

PREVIEW

WHAT DO YOU SEE, OLD FRIEND?

A MAN WHO OWES ME *COIN.*

OLD FRIEND.

I SEE AN *EMPIRE* IN THE MAKING. ONE FORGED IN THE FROZEN BLOOD OF THE OLD KINGDOM, AND THE FIRE OF *CONSTANT* WAR.

"THE WEAK *WITHER* IN BATTLE, FRIEND SLADE. THE STRONG NOT ONLY SURVIVE, BUT *THRIVE.*

"LOOK NOW, UPON *ALL* THAT WAR HAS BROUGHT ME."

WAR *NEVER* GIVES, JARL VANDAR. IT ONLY *TAKES.*

SPEAKING OF...

PREVIEW

IS *THAT* ALL THE DEATHSTROKE LIVES FOR NOW, THEN? THE CLINK OF *COIN* IN HIS PURSE?

IN A LAND LIKE *THIS?*

ALL WARMTH SWALLOWED BY WINTER? ALL COLOR RUN TO GRAY?

WHAT *ELSE* IS THERE?

TO LOVE

ADDIE

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY THEN, TO AN *ARRANGEMENT* BETWIXT US? AS ONCE WE HAD?

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY, IF I ASKED YOU TO CAPTURE A *MONSTER* FOR ME? A DRAUGR FROM THE *PITS OF HEL*, WHO MEANS TO UNMAKE *ALL* I HAVE MADE?

I'D SAY, *HOW MUCH?*

TO BE CONTINUED IN
DARK KNIGHTS OF STEEL: ALLWINTER #1 THIS JULY!

PREVIEW

OSWALD COBBLEPOT RETURNS TO BRING GOTHAM UNDER HIS WING!

THE PENGUIN

VOL. 1: THE PRODIGAL BIRD

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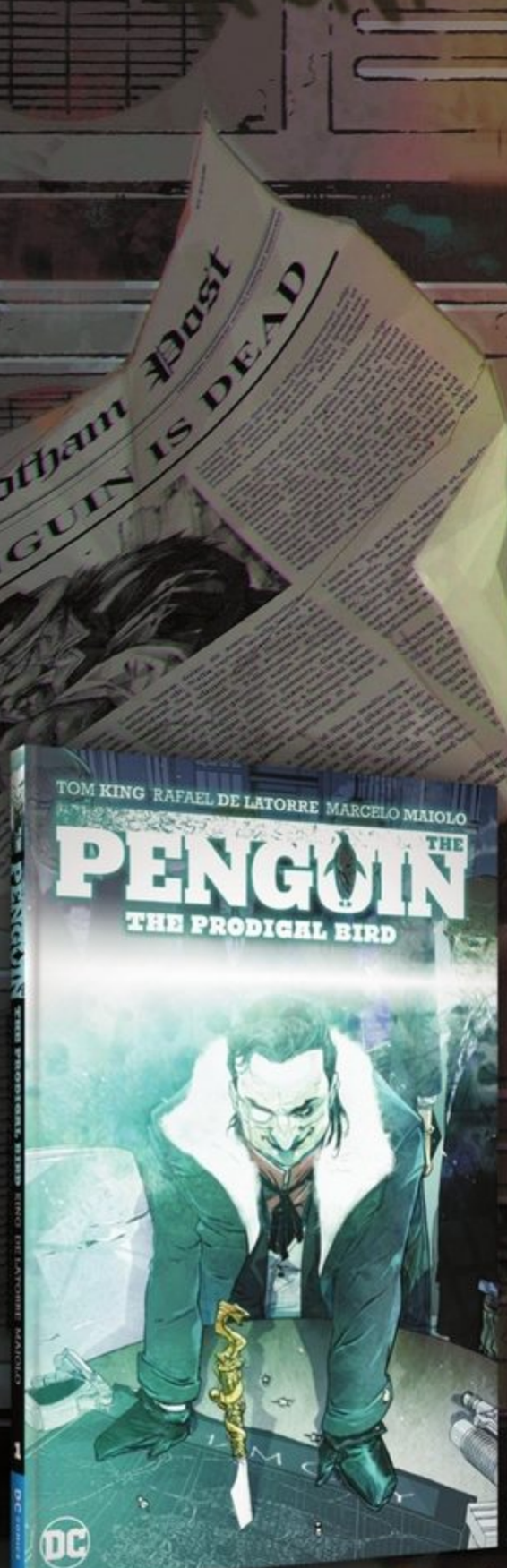
"A story grounded by elements of crime."
—comicbook.com

Written by Eisner Award winner
TOM KING

Art by
RAFAEL DE LATORRE



DAWN OF DC

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

THE NICE HOUSE BY THE SEA

INTERVIEW WITH JAMES TYNION IV

James Tynion IV and Álvaro Martínez Bueno's Eisner Award-winning horror series begins its second cycle in *The Nice House by the Sea*. Amongst a world in disaster, Max has summoned a group of gifted individuals to carry on the flame of civilization in a paradise built just for them. Can they usher humanity into a new future, or will they get what they deserved? James Tynion IV sat down with DC Nation to dive into the mysteries behind this highly anticipated series.

How does this specific location in *The Nice House by the Sea* play into the overall mystery?

The central concept has always been about these characters who are living in paradise, knowing that the world they came from is destroyed. In the first volume, we did a beautiful lake house, which honestly spoke to a lot of what I personally view as a kind of paradise. In *The Nice House by the Sea*, I knew we wanted to do a radical shift. It was Álvaro who suggested that we do a villa on the Mediterranean coastline and let that set the design aesthetic for the entire piece. When Álvaro started sending us designs of the new Nice House, we knew it was the absolute right move.

Are the guests and location of this house different from what we saw in *The Nice House on the Lake*?

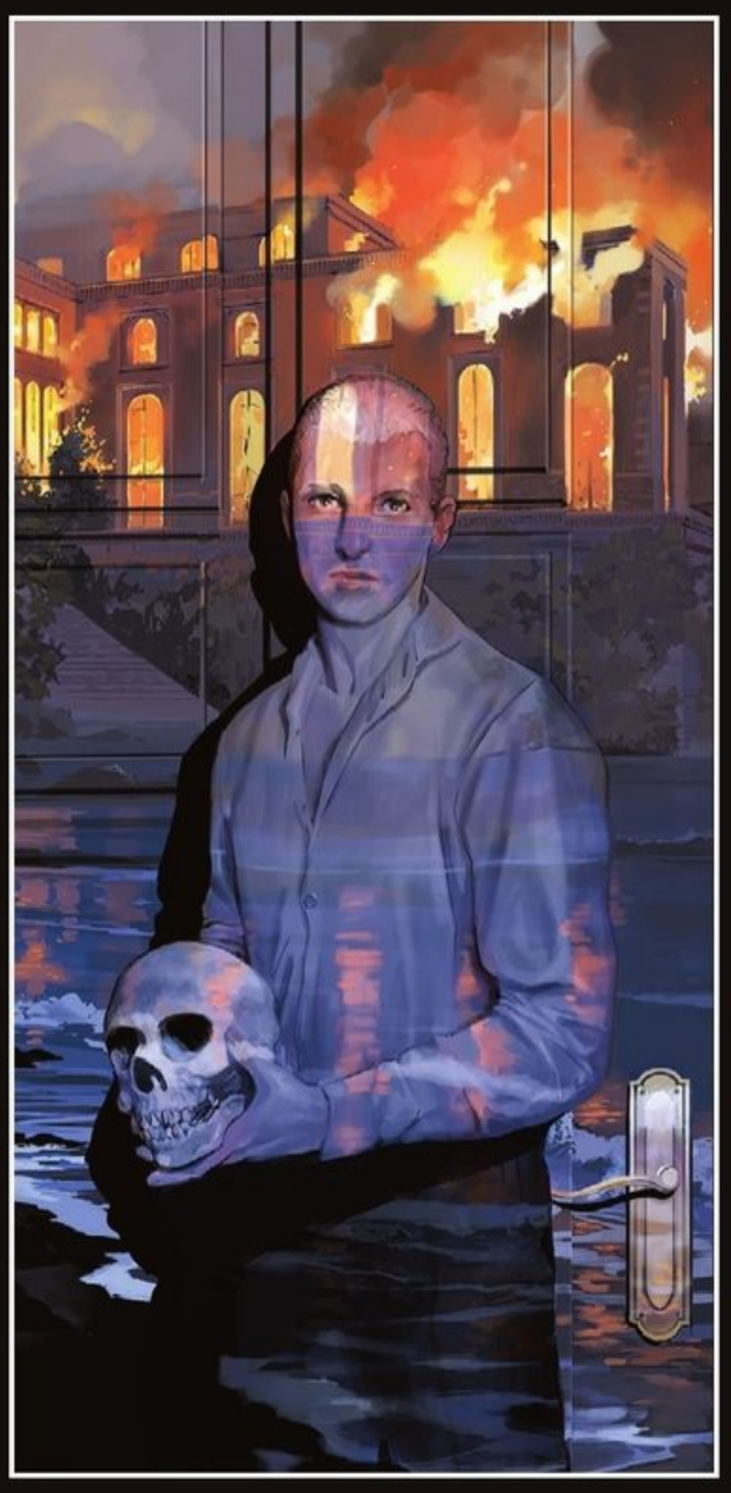
In *The Nice House on the Lake*, the character Walter brought together the people he loved most in the world, and that's why he wanted to save them from the end of the world. But we learned that he was breaking the rules. For the second cycle, I wanted to show a house where somebody followed the rules. These are ten exceptional human beings at the top of their fields. But a lot of the tension comes from the fact that instead of being a group of friends who've known each other for years, these are ten highly competitive people who do not like each other.

Can you tease out a scene that will get fans really excited?

Nice House is a hard series to tease about because it's always been defined by its twists. I promise that *The Nice House by the Sea* is going to have the same kinds of twists and turns as the first series. You really don't know what's coming at the end of that first issue!

What has it been like to reteam with Álvaro Martínez Bueno, and what stylistic choices is he bringing to this new location?

Aside from the personal angle, Álvaro lives and grew up in Spain. He is bringing a lot of his own aesthetic interests from that experience into the creation of this Nice House. I think he's one of the finest artists working in the industry today, and the fact that my inbox gets to see so much beautiful art come in from both him and Jordie Bellaire is a dream come true. I'm just excited to be able to share it with the world.



DON'T MISS
THE NICE HOUSE BY THE SEA #1
THIS JULY

DC BLACK LABEL
Ages 17+

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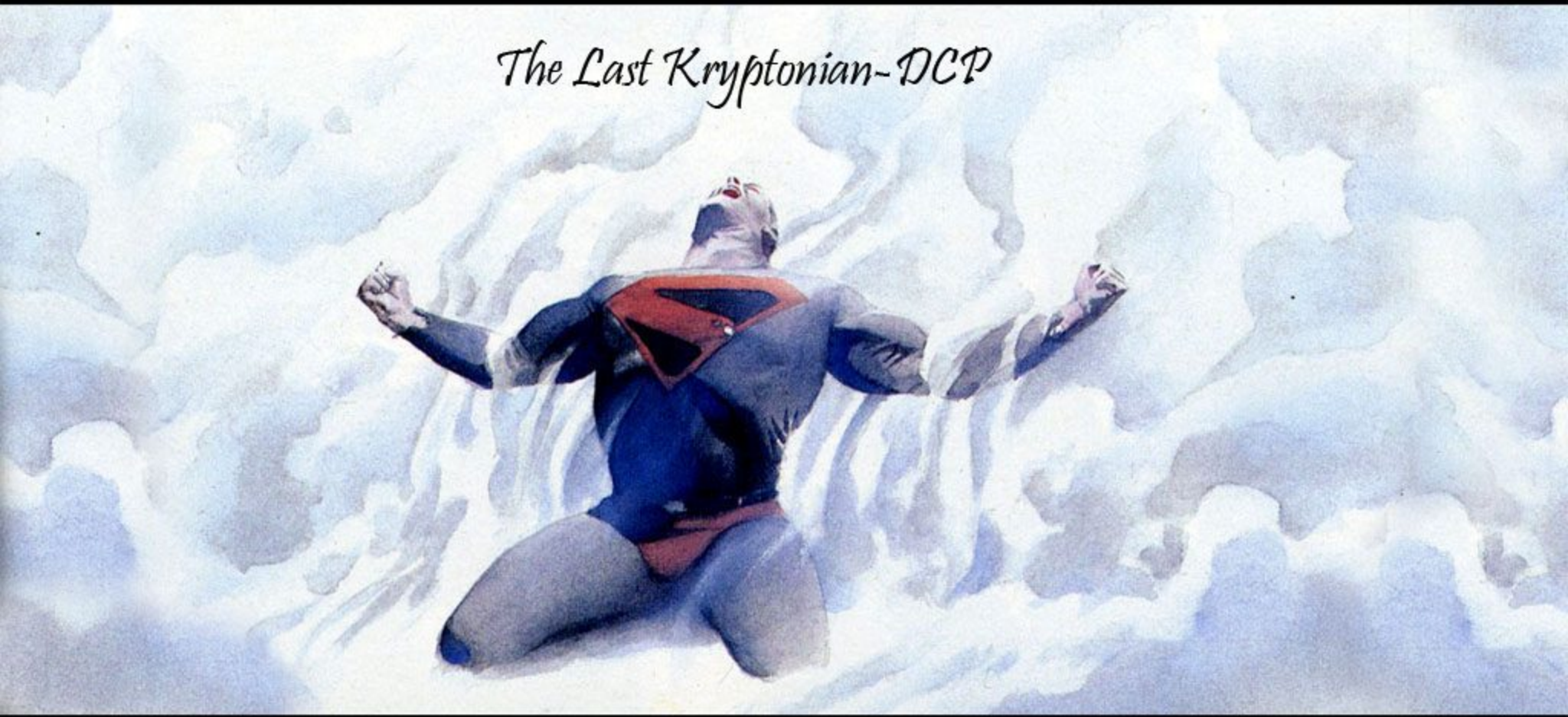
The Last Kryptonian-DCP